

**TSANG Chun-wah, John JP**  
**Financial Secretary, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region**  
**People's Republic of China**

**Background**

Mr Tsang spent his secondary school years in La Salle College in Hong Kong and Stuyvesant High School in New York City. He pursued his interest in architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and went on to receive a Master Degree in Bilingual Education from Boston State College and a Master Degree in Public Administration from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

2. Mr Tsang joined the Hong Kong civil service in November 1982. As a member of the Administrative Service, he served in a number of posts, including Administrative Assistant to the Financial Secretary (1987-1991), Assistant Director-General of Trade (1991-1995) and Private Secretary to the then Governor of Hong Kong (1995-1997). Following the Reunification, Mr Tsang served in a number of different capacities, including Director-General of the London Economic and Trade Office (1997-1999), Commissioner of Customs and Excise (1999-2001), Secretary for Planning and Lands (2001-2002) and Permanent Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands (Planning and Lands) (2002-2003). Mr Tsang was appointed Secretary for Commerce, Industry and Technology in 2003, and with the successful conclusion of the World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference in Hong Kong that he chaired in December 2005, he was appointed Director of the Chief Executive's Office in January 2006. He was appointed Financial Secretary on 1 July 2007.

**Duties of the Financial Secretary**

3. The Financial Secretary's primary responsibility is to assist the Chief Executive in overseeing policy formulation and implementation in financial, monetary, economic, trade and employment matters. He exercises control over the Exchange Fund, with the assistance of the Monetary Authority. He is a member of the Executive Council.

4. The Financial Secretary is also in charge of the Government Budget. He is responsible under the Public Finance Ordinance for laying before the Legislative Council each year the Government's estimates of revenue and expenditure. In his annual budget speech, he outlines the Government's vision and policies for sustainable economic development, and he presents budgetary proposals and moves the Appropriation Bill, which gives legal effect to the annual expenditure proposals contained in the Budget.